

THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE TOWARDS ITALIAN INVASION OF ALBANIA

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Abstract

During the first decades of XX century, The Higher Powers which are the countries with the strong political influence began to control and lead the new states of the South Eastern European countries, especially those of the Balkan Peninsula. France, Italy and Great Britain played the main part in this. France, which strongly backed the Serbo-Croat empire (future Yugoslavia) had the most influential politics after the first world war. Even though at the time, Albania was of no interest to Powers, like Britain or USA. It is for this reason alone that Albania was handled with care in the case against Italy. The reason that the Higher Political powers restricted Italy in its invasion was because there would be a matter of conflict between Italy and Yugoslavia. The destabilisation of Albania could even have disrupted Greece and any interest that Britain may have had there. Although USA did not have a special interest in Albania, they considered our independence to be very important. It is for this reason that the matter required delicate handling especially concerning Italy and its plans for Albania. The reasons why the special forces became very aware of our situation is because of the aggravation that could be caused between Italy and France and also the destabilization of Albania could in fact hurt Greece, and British interests there. It was the impression that the American Government will probably decide that it can do nothing more than make the best of a bad business. Certainly there was no intention in USA, Great Britain or France to go to war over the Albanian affair. American foreign politics saw in the Italian aggression against Albania as merely the first stage of the totalitarian program to obtain Italian predominance in the eastern Mediterranean. The Great Powers policy has been to avoid war at all costs, to avoid even precautionary measures for fear the dictators would see a provocation. As a result the dictators have seized one position after another, have bolstered up collapsing structure of Europe, was no longer taken seriously because the possibility of making them effective has been lost. On an ambassador meeting in Washington, R Lindsay and Grisby stated that they did not understand where the problem stood with Britain recognising Albania and its new regime. However it was clear that for Great Powers, the case concerning Albania was over and dealt with.

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